

Pastor Dave Patterson
1 CORINTHIANS
Part 11: Hats In Church

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

The traditions of man have competed with the truth of scripture for centuries. We must never allow the "statuesque " to determine our approach to worship or honor of our God. Scripture is the authority through which we approach our Lord and Savior .

[Mark 7:5 –8 & 13]

So the Pharisees and teachers of religious law asked him, "Why don't your disciples follow our age-old tradition? They eat without first performing the hand-washing ceremony."

Jesus replied, "You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you, for he wrote, These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship is a farce, for they teach man-made ideas as commands from God. "So you nullify the word of

God by your traditions that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.”

[1 Corinthians 11:5-7]

5 But a woman dishonors her head if she prays or prophesies without a covering on her head, for this is the same as shaving her head. 6 Yes, if she refuses to wear a head covering, she should cut off all her hair! But since it is shameful for a woman to have her hair cut or her head shaved, she should wear a covering. 7 A man should not wear anything on his head when worshiping.

[1 Corinthians 11:2-5 (The Message)]

All actual authority stems from Christ. In a marriage relationship, there is authority from Christ to husband, and from husband to wife. The authority of Christ is the authority of God. Any man who speaks with God or about God in a way that shows a lack of respect for the authority of Christ, dishonors Christ. In the same way, a wife who speaks with God in a way that shows a lack of respect for the authority of her husband, dishonors her husband. Worse, she dishonors herself—an ugly sight, like a woman with her head shaved.

[1 Corinthians 11:3 (NIV)]

But I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

The head = the spiritual authority and covering

[1 Corinthians 11:5-6, 13-16]

But every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head—it is the same as having her head shaved. 6 For if a woman does not cover her head, she might as well have her hair cut off; but if it is a disgrace for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, then she should cover her head.

13 Judge for yourselves. Is it right for a woman to pray to God in public without covering her head? 14 Isn't it obvious that it's disgraceful for a man to have long hair? 15 And isn't long hair a woman's pride and joy? For it has been given to her as a covering. 16 But if anyone wants to argue about this, I simply say that we have no other custom than this, and neither do God's other churches.

[1 Corinthians 8:9]

"You must be careful so that your freedom does not cause others with a weaker conscience to stumble"

• **WE WILL - live by spiritual principles and not be bound by religious traditions**

[1 Corinthians 11:20-22]

When you meet together, you are not really interested in the Lord's Supper. 21 For some of you hurry to eat your own meal without sharing with others. As a result, some go hungry while others get drunk. 22 What? Don't you have your own homes for eating and drinking? Or do you really want to disgrace God's church and shame the poor? What am I supposed to say? Do you want me to praise you? Well, I certainly will not praise you for this!

[1 Corinthians 11:23]

For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it.

[1 Corinthians 11:24-26]

*Then he broke it in pieces and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."
25 In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to remember me as*

often as you drink it.” 26 For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing (proclaiming) the Lord’s death until he comes again.

- **WE WILL - consistently preach the death and resurrection of Jesus by coming to the table of the Lord**

[1 Corinthians 11:27-30]

27 So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. 28 Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.

29 For if you eat the bread or drink the cup without honoring the body of Christ, you are eating and drinking God’s judgment upon yourself. 30 That is why many of you are weak and sick and some have even died.

- **WE WILL - examine our hearts and motives so the sacred things do not become common**

[1 Corinthians 11:24]

“This is my body, which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

- **WE WILL - receive, by faith, the broken body of Christ in order to be healed and restored**

[Hebrews 10:19-21 (NLT)]

And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven’s Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God’s house, let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him.

- **WE WILL** - receive, by faith, access to the very presence of God where we are cleansed and made new!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **What religious / cultural traditions have you seen over the years?**
2. **What effect has the traditions of man had on your spiritual life?**
3. **Have you identified your God appointed spiritual covering? What is the biggest challenge when submitting to this authority?**
4. **What does the Table of The Lord (communion) mean to you? Does it feel like a tradition? What have you experienced that has caused you to view it as a simple tradition?**
5. **What would be some examples of allowing the sacred to become common? What can we do to avoid doing this?**
6. **Spend some time asking Gods presence to come and change lives.**